

ps
walls being solid and extending the entire distance said columns of said openings are spaced apart and defining at least vertically oriented open areas between said walls, said at least two vertically oriented open areas in communication with said openings in said base, said open areas having a cross sectional area larger than the cross sectional area of said openings in said base.

38. (Three times amended) The press block according to claim 37 wherein:
said rows and columns defined by reinforcement and insertion members; and
wherein there is a wall corresponding to each insertion member and an open area corresponding to each column of discrete openings.

REMARKS

Claims 37-44 and 49-52 are pending, of which, claims 40, 50-52 have been non-elected without traverse and claims 37-39 and 41-44 have been rejected.

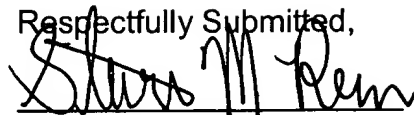
The drawings have been objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) and the claims rejected under 35 USC 112 ¶2. To clarify the invention greatly, new Figure 12 is proposed as well as the current amendments to claim 37-38. These amendments speak for themselves and should resolve any further confusion.

Once again, the claims have been rejected under Glover. Rather than repeating the arguments of Applicant's previous response here, Applicant requests the examiner reconsider those arguments in view of the new Figure 12 and how that figure shows an entirely different structure than that of Glover. Furthermore, while the examiner states that Glover has a solid top surface 56, he is reminded that Glover's figure is a simplified one and the slots 60 span the entire top surface of his connector.

Accordingly, in view of the above, it is believed that all the claims herein are

allowable and an early indication as such is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,



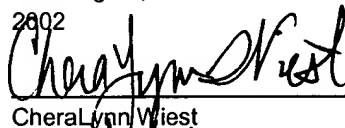
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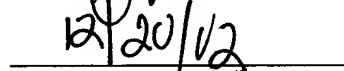
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Cheralynn Wiest



Date of Signature

Marked-Up Claims

37. (Three times amended) A unitary press block comprising:

a unitary housing having a solid top surface, a solid bottom surface, solid side walls, and a generally planar base; and

a plurality of discrete openings through said base, said plurality of discrete openings arranged in a plurality of spaced apart rows and spaced apart columns; and

a plurality of vertically disposed parallel ~~side~~-walls extending from said base, said ~~side~~-walls being solid and extending the entire distance said columns of said openings are spaced apart and defining at least vertically oriented open areas between said ~~side~~ walls, said at least two vertically oriented open areas in communication with said openings in said base, said open areas having a cross sectional area larger than the cross sectional area of said openings in said base.

38. (Three times amended) The press block according to claim 37 wherein:

said rows and columns defined by reinforcement and insertion members; and wherein there is a ~~side~~-wall corresponding to each insertion member and an open area corresponding to each column of discrete openings.